

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9867

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 STOCKHOLM 1193

E. O.11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR SW UR

SUBJECT: DINNER SPEECHES DURING KOSYGIN VISIT

REF: STOCKHOLM 1134

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER OLOF PALME AND CHAIRMAN A. N. KOSYGIN EXCHANGED SPEECHES AND TOASTS DURING SWEDISH GOVERNMENT'S DINNER AT MFA APRIL 2 AND SOVIET DINNER AT EMBASSY ON APRIL 3. SPEECHES CONTAINED NO SURPRISES, EMPHASIZED RESPECT FOR DIFFERING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS, IMPORTANCE OF SWEDISH POLICY OF NEUTRALITY, DETENTE IN EUROPE, WELCOME OF VIETNAM PEACE AGREEMENT, LACK OF SERIOUS BILATERAL PROBLEMS AND DESIRE FOR INCREASED TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

1. PALME'S SPEECH APRIL 2 ISSUED AS MFA PRESS RELEASE. IN SPEECH PALME POINTED TO THE "LIVELY INTERCHANGE OF VISITS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES." HE SAID THAT SWEDEN ATTACHES "THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO THIS," CONTINUING: "WE DESIRE A CLOSE AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE GREAT POWERS REGARDING VARIOUS PROBLEMS. IT ENABLES US

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TO PRESENT THE POINTS OF VIEW OF A SMALL NATION, AND WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH AN EXCHANGE CONTRIBUTES TO MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING." PALME WELCOMED VIETNAM AGREEMENT, WHICH GIVES " THE SORELY TRIED PEOPLES OF INDOCHINA FREEDOM TO SHAPE THEIR OWN FUTURE WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE." ADMITTING THAT FINAL ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE " WILL PROBABLY BE A LONG AND DIFFICULT PROCESS", PALME SAID " WE REGARD IT AS A HOPEFUL SIGN THAT THE GREAT POWERS HAVE AGREED TO RESPECT THE RIGHT OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE TO SELF- DETERMINATION." PALME HAILED DETENTE IN EUROPE, CITING THE BASIC TREATY BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES WHICH " OPEN UP THE WAY FOR A NEW PHASE IN THE HISTORY OF EUROPE." PALME ADDED THAT " DETENTE MEANS INCREASED SECURITY ALSO FOR A SMALL NEUTRAL COUNTRY LIKE SWEDEN." HE SAID THAT " THIS NEW PHASE " HAS ALREADY STARTED WITH MPT IN HELSINKI, NOTING THAT ONE OF FUNDAMENTAL CONDITIONS FOR ITS SUCCESS IS THAT PARTICIPATING STATES " RESPECT ONE ANOTHER' S SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS AND CHOICE OF NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY". PALME SAID THE GREAT POWERS HAVE SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY BUT THAT " THE SMALL NATIONS CANNOT EVADE THEIR SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY. BY SAFEGUARDING THEIR OWN SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE THEY DEFEND PRINCIPLES WHICH FORM THE FOUNDATION OF A STABLE PEACE AND CONTINUED DETENTE," PALME CONTINUED. " WE BELIEVE THAT SWEDEN' S STEADFAST POLICY OF NEUTRALITY IS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION" AND THAT " PEACE AND SECURITY IN OUR PART OF THE WORLD ARE BEST SERVED BY PRESERVING THE POLITICAL BALANCE IN THE NORDIC AREA". PALME POINTED TO SWEDISH/ SOVIET COOPERATION INCLUDING TRADE AND INDUSTRY, NOTING THAT THERE HAS BEEN DECLINE IN SOVIET/ SWEDISH TRADE PARTICULARLY IN SWEDISH EXPORTS TO SOVIET IN RECENT YEARS, BUT EXPRESSING BELIEF AND HOPE THAT THIS DECLINE IS TEMPORARY AND THAT " THE DYNAMIC INDUSTRIAL GROWTH IN THE SOVIET UNION" WILL BEFORE LONG " LEAD TO SUBSTANTIAL EXPANSION OF TRADE."

2. KOSYGIN SPEECH OF APRIL 2 WAS RELEASED BY SOVIET (NOVOSTI) PRESS SERVICE. KOSYGIN SAID THAT SOVIET PEACE PROGRAM (AS ACCEPTED BY 24 TH CONGRESS OF CPSU) " IS DIRECTED TOWARD ALL COUNTRIES THAT ARE PREPARED TO COOPERATE ON THE BASIS OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN NATIONS WITH DIFFERENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOCIAL SYSTEMS." HE SAID FURTHER, " WE DIRECT THIS PROGRAM

ALSO TOWARD SWEDEN, WITH ITS TRADITIONAL NEUTRALITY POLICIES, " NOTING THAT THE SOVIET UNION RESPECTS THIS SWEDISH POLICY WHICH HAS BECOME ONE OF THE FACTORS FOR STABILITY AND PEACE IN NORTHERN EUROPE." HE GAVE A BOW TO PALME AND TO THE " ACTIVE" EMPHASIS OF SWEDISH NEUTRALITY, SAYING: " AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, SWEDISH NEUTRALITY DOES NOT MEAN NON- PARTISANSHIP IN QUESTIONS OF WAR AND PEACE." KOSYGIN PAID TRIBUTE TO THE EFFORTS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE

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REALISTIC POLICIES OF THE BRANDT- SCHEELE GOVERNMENT" OF FRG WHICH HAVE LED TO RELAXATION OF TENSIONS, TO PROGRESS ON " SUCH A FUNDAMENTAL SECURITY PROBLEM AS THE STRICT RESPECT FOR EXISTING EUROPEAN BORDERS" THROUGH TREATIES OF USSR AND POLAND WITH FRG, THE FOUR PARTY AGREEMENT ON WEST BERLIN AND THE BASIC TREATY BETWEEN GDR AND FRG. AT SAME TIME HE WARNED AGAINST THE " OPPONENTS OF DETENTE- THE FORCES OF MILITARISM, REVANCHISM AND THE SUPPORTERS OF AGGRESSIVE MILITARY BLOCS" WHICH HAVE NOT LAID DOWN THEIR ARMS. HE SAID USSR BELIEVES THAT THE CSCE WILL " PLAY A HISTORIC ROLE IN LAYING A STABLE FOUNDATION FOR PEACE AND SECURITY" IN EUROPE, HELP THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES FIND A COMMON GROUND FOR THE EFFORTS TO ABOLISH TRADE DIS- CRIMINATION, REGULATE MONETARY AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS AND

DEVELOP ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

3. IN APRIL 3 SPEECH ALSO RELEASED BY NOVOSTI, KOSYGIN CHARACTERIZED MEETINGS AND TALKS WITH PALME AND OTHER SWEDISH OFFICIALS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS AS " INDISPUTABLY REWARDING." HE CONCLUDED THAT SOVIET AND SWEDEN ARE NATURAL PARTNERS IN ECONOMIC AREA DUE TO GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, TRADITIONS OF MUTUAL TRADE AND KNOWLEDGE OF EACH OTHER'S CUSTOMS AND REQUIREMENTS. HE SAID, " WE SHOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THINK NOT ONLY OF NEEDS OF IMMEDIATE FUTURE BUT ALSO ON LONG- RANGE DEVELOPMENTS," SUGGESTING THAT SWEDISH BUSINESS COMMUNITY SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHAT ROLE THE SOVIET UNION WOULD BE PREPARED TO PLAY IN MEETING SWEDEN'S LONG- RANGE POWER REQUIREMENTS, DIVERSE EQUIPMENT AND RAW MATERIALS." HE SAID THAT " SOVIET ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD THEN BE ABLE TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE OPPORTUNITIES OF SWEDISH INDUSTRY IN DECIDING ON CURRENT AND LONG- RANGE PLANS FOR THE NATIONAL ECONOMY." KOSYGIN TURNED TO VIETNAM, SAYING THAT " QUITE RECENTLY ALL PEACELOVING FORCES WELCOMED THE GREAT VICTORY FOR PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE IN VIETNAM AND PAID TRIBUTE TO THE HEROIC PEOPLE OF THAT COUNTRY." COMPLETING THE TOUR D' HORIZON KOSYGIN SAID " WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THE PROGRESSIVE FORCES WILL DO EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE TO ASSURE THAT THE STRUGGLE OF THE ARAB PEOPLES AND ALL OTHER PEOPLE FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND PEACE SHALL BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS."

4. ACCORDING NOVOSTI'S SUMMARY OF PALME SPEECH OF APRIL 3 THE PRIME MINISTER NOTED THAT PAST CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES NOW REPLACED BY PEACEFUL RELATIONS. TWO COUNTRIES WHICH DURING THEIR HISTORY HAVE HAD SUCH CLOSE CONTACTS AND WHICH HAVE SO INFLUENCED EACH OTHER - WITH THE RESERVATION THAT SWEDEN IS A SMALL COUNTRY AND THE SOVIET UNION AN ENTIRE CONTINENT - MUST HAVE MUCH IN COMMON, PALME CONCLUDED. HE DECLARED THAT THERE HAD BEEN DURING THE DISCUSSIONS AN EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS IN CURRENT INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS AND THE TWO PARTIES HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY BETTER TO LEARN TO KNOW EACH OTHER. HE SAID THAT THE GOS IS VERY INTERESTED IN A SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS DISCUSSED, AS FOR INSTANCE LONG- RANGE COOPERATION IN TRADE AND ECONOMY, EXPANDING COOPERATION ALSO IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE AND IN SOLVING SUCH PROBLEMS AS THE PROTECTION AGAINST POLLUTION OF THE BALTIC WATERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT AS A WHOLE, ACCORDING NOVOSTI. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THAT PALME INCLUDED BY IMPLICATION THE UNITED STATES IN HIS

EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR CLOSE AND FRANK EXCHANGES OF VIEWS
WITH GREAT POWERS (PARA 1).

6. PRINCIPAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR ON PALME' S PERSONAL
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STAFF TOLD EMBOFF THAT PRIME MINISTER' S APRIL 2 SPEECH
(ABOVE) AND FINAL COMMUNIQUE (SEPTTEL) WILL BE ONLY OFFICIAL
STATEMENTS ON VISIT ISSUED BY SWEDISH SIDE. TEXT OF
PALME' S APRIL 2 SPEECH WAS AVAILABLE ONLY ON SPECIFIC
REQUEST TO MFA, NOT DISTRIBUTED GENERALLY AS ARE MOST
PRESS RELEASES. SOVIET SIDE THUS MORE ACTIVE IN ISSUING
TEXTS OF SPEECHES AND STATEMENTS THAN SWEDES, PERHAPS
INDICATING LATTER' S ATTEMPT TO STRESS THE BUSINESS LIKE,
ALMOST ROUTINE NATURE OF THE VISIT.
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